

Dear FCC,

I am writing to strongly urge you to not repeal the existing law that prohibits cross-ownership of a newspaper and TV station by any company in any one geographic area. We are living in a time when corporate media mergers are dangerously reducing the diversity of news and perspectives. As any 8th grade civics student can attest, a democracy cannot exist without a plurality of perspectives and voices. To eliminate the cross-ownership law will only further silence and homogenize that plurality.

We are going down a dangerous road if we allow the interests of corporate profits to eclipse the public's need for a diversity of news sources and perspectives. How are we to make "informed" decisions if the news and information we get is gutted of real content and contains nothing but corporate window dressing? I, for one, do not want to be a corporate automaton "informed" with corporate perspectives and voting for corporate interests. No, I want to be a citizen who has a choice of news so that, as democratic ideals have it, I can make informed and intelligent decisions for myself, my community and my country.

I urge you, again, to not repeal the cross-ownership law for newspapers and TV stations.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

Paul Keats